

ECONOMIC INDICATORS QUEENSLAND

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 20 DEC 1996

DECEMBER KEY FIGURES

AUSTRALIA

BALANCE ON CURRENT ACCOUNT

- The trend estimate for the October 1996 current account deficit was \$1,610m, up \$59m, or 3.8%, on the trend estimate for September 1996.
- The trend estimate on the balance on goods and services for October 1996 recorded a surplus of \$106m, down \$2m, or 1.9%, on the trend estimate for September 1996. This is the fifth consecutive surplus in this balance and the longest run of monthly surpluses since April 1992.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

- Gross Domestic Product – Average, in trend terms, was \$109,732m for September quarter 1996, an increase of 0.5% from June quarter 1996 and an increase of 3.9% from September quarter 1995.

QUEENSLAND

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

- The total number of persons employed, in trend terms, totalled 1,541,300 for November 1996, increasing 1.8% over November 1995.
- In trend terms, the number of unemployed persons for November 1996 was 163,900, an increase of 2.1% over November 1995.

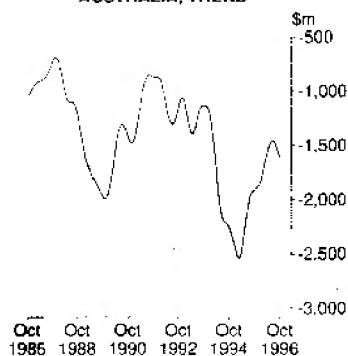
HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

- Total housing finance for owner occupation for September 1996 was \$726.9m, a decrease of 2.6% from September 1995.

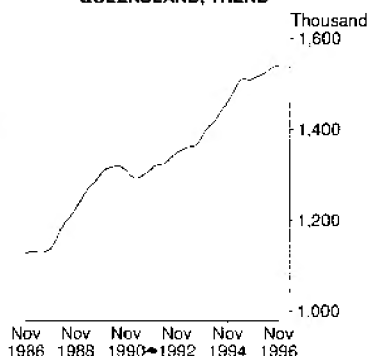
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

- Average Weekly Earnings for full-time adult males for August quarter 1996 was \$663.70, an increase of 3.5% over August quarter 1995. Average Weekly Earnings for full-time adult females for August 1996 was \$569.70, an increase of 4.3% over August quarter 1995.

**BALANCE ON CURRENT ACCOUNT,
AUSTRALIA, TREND**



**EMPLOYED PERSONS,
QUEENSLAND, TREND**



INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the Inquiry Service on 07 3222 6351, or any ABS office.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE

RELEASE DATE

January 1997

28 January 1997

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26 February 1997

March 1997

26 March 1997

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

Nil.

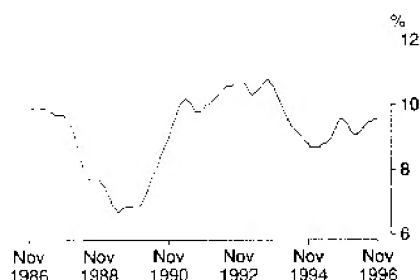
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BRIAN DOYLE

REGIONAL DIRECTOR, QUEENSLAND

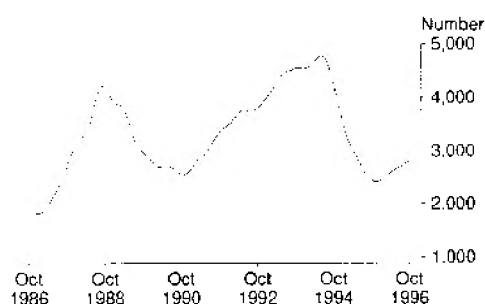
COMMENTARY

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE,
PERSONS, QUEENSLAND,
TREND



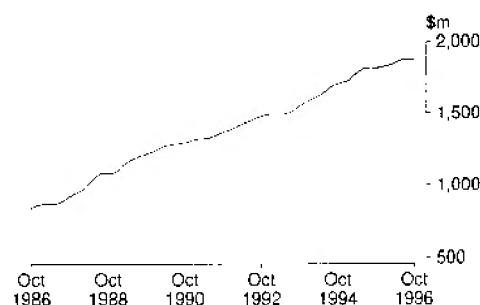
The trend estimate unemployment rate for November 1996 was 9.6%, recording no change from the October 1996 figure and no change from the November 1995 figure.

TOTAL DWELLING UNITS
APPROVED, QUEENSLAND,
TREND



The trend estimate for total number of dwelling units approved in Queensland was 2,808 for October 1996, an increase of 1.0% over September 1996 and an increase of 13.5% over October 1995. The number of new houses approved, in trend terms, was 1,897 for October 1996, a decrease of 1.2% from September 1996, but an increase of 4.3% over October 1995.

RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER,
QUEENSLAND, TREND



Retail trade turnover in Queensland, in trend terms, was \$1,873.3m in October 1996, an increase of 3.2% over the figure for October 1995.

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MAJOR INDICATORS—Australia

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

| Month | Merchandise exports | Merchandise imports | Balance on merchandise trade | Balance on goods and services | Balance on current account | Net income and unrequited transfers |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| TREND (\$ million) | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| July | 6 340 | 6 296 | 44 | 98.0 | -1 454 | n.a. |
| August | 6 320 | 6 251 | 69 | 115.0 | -1 488 | n.a. |
| September | 6 301 | 6 227 | 74 | 108.0 | -1 551 | n.a. |
| October | 6 284 | 6 198 | 86 | 106.0 | -1 610 | n.a. |

TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|----|----|----|------|
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| October | 2.9 | -1.0 | .. | .. | .. | n.a. |

ORIGINAL (\$ million)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|--------|
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| July | 6 480 | 6 945 | -465 | -400 | -1 945 | -1 545 |
| August | 6 334 | 6 565 | -231 | -402 | -1 985 | -1 583 |
| September | 6 198 | 6 389 | -191 | -563 | -2 229 | -1 666 |
| October | 6 597 | 7 170 | -573 | -615 | -2 367 | -1 752 |

ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|-------|
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| October | 5.4 | 7.0 | .. | .. | .. | -13.6 |

FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN AUSTRALIA¹

EXCHANGE RATE LEVELS²

| Quarter | Official \$m | Non-official \$m | Net foreign debt \$m | \$US/\$A | Yen/\$A | Trade-weighted index ³ |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 1995 | | | | | | |
| December | 79 832 | 346 426 | 185 693 | 0.7485 | 75.93 | 53.9 |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| March | 77 841 | 351 407 | 185 514 | 0.7563 | 79.83 | 56.8 |
| June | 77 322 | 357 965 | 186 866 | 0.7918 | 85.12 | 58.1 |
| September | 79 019 | 365 187 | 191 194 | 0.7884 | 85.92 | 58.5 |

% CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF PREVIOUS YEAR

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|-----|------|------|
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| June | 3.3 | 9.6 | 2.9 | 8.8 | 38.6 | 20.0 |
| September | 4.4 | 10.2 | 5.9 | 6.4 | 23.2 | 8.7 |

¹ At end of period.

² Source: Reserve Bank of Australia.

³ Base: 1970=100.0.



MAJOR INDICATORS—Australia *continued*

AUSTRALIA NATIONAL ACCOUNTS¹

| | Final consumption expenditure | | Gross fixed capital expenditure | | Exports of goods and services | Imports of goods and services | Gross non-farm product – income based | Gross domestic product income based |
|--|-------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Quarter | Private | Government | Private | Public | | | | |
| TREND (\$ million) | | | | | | | | |
| 1995 | | | | | | | | |
| December | 65 048 | 18 103 | 18 119 | 5 023 | 24 207 | 23 437 | 103 794 | 107 463 |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 65 679 | 18 191 | 18 516 | 5 044 | 25 011 | 24 156 | 104 915 | 108 681 |
| June | 66 179 | 18 137 | 19 067 | 4 919 | 25 426 | 24 734 | 105 733 | 109 511 |
| September | 66 535 | 17 967 | 19 619 | 4 750 | 25 597 | 25 074 | 106 268 | 110 058 |
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| September | 3.5 | 0.2 | 8.8 | –3.7 | 10.1 | 9.0 | 3.5 | 3.8 |
| ORIGINAL (\$ million) | | | | | | | | |
| 1995 | | | | | | | | |
| December | 68 302 | 18 452 | 19 107 | 4 690 | 24 836 | 23 385 | 108 030 | 114 672 |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 63 099 | 17 426 | 16 905 | 4 670 | 24 965 | 23 284 | 102 194 | 105 081 |
| June | 65 323 | 18 578 | 19 475 | 6 468 | 25 009 | 24 411 | 104 736 | 107 236 |
| September | 66 327 | 18 181 | 19 634 | 3 680 | 25 483 | 26 153 | 106 118 | 108 823 |
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| September | 3.2 | 2.2 | 8.4 | –13.6 | 9.2 | 8.3 | 4.1 | 4.1 |

AUSTRALIA—NATIONAL ACCOUNTS¹ COMPOSITE LEADING INDICATOR² COMPANY PROFITS

| Quarter | Gross domestic product - average | | Deviation from long-term trend | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|----|
| | \$m | % | \$m | % |
| TREND | | | | |
| 1995 | | | | |
| December | 107 103 | .. | 6 152 | .. |
| 1996 | | | | |
| March | 108 367 | .. | 5 823 | .. |
| June | 109 212 | .. | 5 478 | .. |
| September | 109 732 | .. | 5 183 | .. |
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | |
| September | 3.9 | .. | -17.6 | .. |
| ORIGINAL | | | | |
| 1995 | | | | |
| December | 114 077 | -0.60 | 6 954 | .. |
| 1996 | | | | |
| March | 104 183 | -0.34 | 5 276 | .. |
| June | 107 349 | -0.04 | 4 698 | .. |
| September | 108 658 | 0.14 | 5 666 | .. |
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | |
| September | 3.8 | .. | -18.9 | .. |

¹ At average 1989-90 prices.

² See explanatory note 6, page 19.

MAJOR INDICATORS—Queensland

| Quarter | FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE ¹ | | GROSS FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ² | | STATE FINAL DEMAND ³ | GROSS STATE PRODUCT— INCOME BASED ⁴ |
|--|---|------------|---|--------|------------------------------------|--|
| | Private | Government | Private | Public | | |
| TREND (\$ million) | | | | | | |
| 1995 | | | | | | |
| September | 10 848 | 2 784 | 3 456 | 1 091 | 18 179 | 17 202 |
| December | 10 976 | 2 821 | 3 401 | 1 100 | 18 298 | 17 387 |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| March | 11 099 | 2 845 | 3 432 | 1 154 | 18 530 | 17 658 |
| June | 11 216 | 2 851 | 3 519 | 1 225 | 18 811 | 17 965 |
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| June | 4.6 | 4.1 | -0.3 | 9.7 | 3.9 | 5.2 |
| ORIGINAL (\$ million) | | | | | | |
| 1995 | | | | | | |
| September | 10 915 | 2 826 | 3 455 | 1 021 | 18 217 | 17 187 |
| December | 11 513 | 2 821 | 3 569 | 1 015 | 18 918 | 17 426 |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| March | 10 717 | 2 801 | 3 072 | 1 015 | 17 605 | 17 486 |
| June | 10 969 | 2 815 | 3 689 | 1 516 | 18 989 | 18 160 |
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| June | 3.9 | -0.5 | 0.4 | 7.8 | 2.8 | 6.1 |

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.....

| Quarter | Building and structures | Equipment, plant and machinery | Total |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| TREND (\$ million) | | | |
| 1995 | | | |
| September | 401 | 962 | 1 363 |
| December | 393 | 952 | 1 345 |
| 1996 | | | |
| March | 465 | 974 | 1 439 |
| June | 575 | 1 023 | 1 598 |
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | |
| 1996 | | | |
| June | 25.3 | 9.1 | 14.4 |
| ORIGINAL (\$ million) | | | |
| 1995 | | | |
| September | 367 | 937 | 1 304 |
| December | 413 | 909 | 1 323 |
| 1996 | | | |
| March | 350 | 880 | 1 230 |
| June | 696 | 1 184 | 1 880 |
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | |
| 1996 | | | |
| June | 30.8 | 5.8 | 13.8 |

¹ At average 1989-90 prices.

| TOTAL BUSINESS NAMES REGISTERED ¹ | | BANKRUPTCIES ² | | INTERSTATE TRADE ³ | |
|--|---------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Quarter | No. | No. | Exports \$m | Imports \$m | |
| 1995 | | | | | |
| September | 173 406 | 842 | 1 559 | 3 396 | |
| December | 174 394 | 895 | 1 476 | 3 475 | |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| March | 175 943 | 1 052 | 1 516 | 3 115 | |
| June | 176 658 | 1 051 | 1 668 | 3 395 | |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| March | 4.1 | 41.0 | 11.4 | 2.1 | |
| June | 2.8 | 37.9 | 15.3 | 13.9 | |

| FOREIGN TRADE..... | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Month | Exports \$m | Imports \$m |
| 1996 | | |
| June | 1 026 | 634 |
| July | 1 143 | 722 |
| August | 1 254 | 644 |
| September | 1 069 | 649 |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) | | |
| 1996 | | |
| August | -2.5 | -4.9 |
| September | -14.9 | -2.6 |

¹ Stock at end of period. Source: Office of Consumer Affairs.

² Source: Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

³ Source: Queensland Government Statistician.



PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

AUSTRALIA—INDEXES OF MANUFACTURING GROSS PRODUCT¹

| Quarter | Food, beverages and tobacco | Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather | Chemicals, petroleum and coal | Metal products | Machinery and equipment | All groups |
|--|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| TREND | | | | | | |
| 1995 | | | | | | |
| December | 110.2 | 86.6 | 114.2 | 113.0 | 112.6 | 108.1 |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| March | 111.2 | 83.2 | 117.8 | 113.0 | 117.7 | 109.7 |
| June | 111.6 | 81.2 | 119.5 | 113.1 | 122.4 | 110.7 |
| September | 111.9 | 81.3 | 119.1 | 114.0 | 126.4 | 111.3 |
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| September | 3.3 | -9.4 | 6.7 | 2.2 | 16.1 | 4.6 |
| ORIGINAL | | | | | | |
| 1995 | | | | | | |
| December | 118.6 | 89.0 | 115.5 | 115.7 | 116.1 | 113.3 |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| March | 106.5 | 78.4 | 116.7 | 110.3 | 112.6 | 105.3 |
| June | 108.4 | 77.6 | 120.3 | 106.2 | 121.8 | 107.9 |
| September | 112.1 | 86.2 | 119.3 | 120.6 | 131.3 | 114.4 |
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| September | 2.5 | -8.0 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 16.7 | 6.0 |

QUEENSLAND—SHORT-TERM ACCOMMODATION

LICENSED HOTELS, MOTELS WITH FACILITIES

SELF CONTAINED UNITS, FLATS AND HOUSES

| Quarter | Rooms available '000 | Room nights occupied '000 | Room occupancy rate % | Takings from accommodation \$m | Units available '000 | Unit nights occupied '000 | Unit occupancy rate % | Takings from accommodation \$m |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1995 | | | | | | | | |
| September | 41.9 | 2 596 | 67.3 | 242.5 | 18.5 | 1 194 | 70.1 | 72.6 |
| December | 42.2 | 2 449 | 63.2 | 245.6 | 18.8 | 1 065 | 61.7 | 70.9 |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 42.7 | 2 269 | 58.7 | 227.1 | 18.9 | 1 001 | 58.5 | 68.8 |
| June | 43.7 | 2 278 | 57.6 | 218.4 | 18.8 | 846 | 49.4 | 52.6 |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 4.2 | 3.7 | .. | 11.3 | 5.8 | 8.9 | .. | 10.7 |
| June | 5.7 | 1.9 | .. | 5.9 | 3.3 | 3.6 | .. | 7.7 |

¹ At average 1989-90 prices. Base: 1989-90=100.0.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION *continued*

QUEENSLAND.....

MINERAL PRODUCTION.....

MINERAL
EXPLORATION

| Quarter | <i>Black coal (saleable)¹</i> | <i>Copper</i> | <i>Gold</i> | <i>Total</i> | |
|--|--|---------------|-------------|--------------|------|
| | '000 tonnes | '000 tonnes | '000 kg | \$m | \$m |
| 1995 | | | | | |
| September | 25 407.0 | 63.5 | 7.0 | 1 458.0 | 43.8 |
| December | 21 827.0 | 62.8 | 8.4 | 1 406.0 | 39.4 |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| March | 22 084.0 | 64.7 | 6.9 | 1 353.0 | 40.9 |
| June | 23 755.0 | 73.9 | 6.7 | 1 401.0 | 56.9 |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| March | -4.5 | 54.8 | 7.6 | 12.5 | 26.2 |
| June | 0.5 | 86.1 | -11.9 | 6.2 | 26.7 |

QUEENSLAND.....

RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS²

| | | Passenger vehicles | Total |
|---|---------|--------------------|--------|
| Month | \$m | No. | No. |
| | | | |
| TREND | | | |
| 1996 | | | |
| July | 1 879.2 | 8 555 | 10 689 |
| August | 1 880.6 | 8 430 | 10 527 |
| September | 1 878.1 | 8 218 | 10 280 |
| October | 1 873.3 | 8 023 | 10 054 |
| | | | |
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | |
| 1996 | | | |
| September | 3.4 | 5.5 | 6.0 |
| October | 3.2 | 3.9 | 5.0 |

ORIGINAL

| | | | |
|---|---------|-------|--------|
| 1996 | | | |
| July | 1 872.4 | 8 547 | 10 585 |
| August | 1 881.7 | 8 758 | 10 903 |
| September | 1 808.1 | 7 813 | 9 789 |
| October | 1 901.0 | 8 224 | 10 298 |
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | |
| 1996 | | | |
| September | 0.2 | 3.9 | 3.6 |
| October | 5.0 | -4.4 | -4.2 |

¹ Source: Queensland Coal Board.² Excluding motor cycles, mobile equipment and trailers.

LABOUR AND DEMOGRAPHY—Queensland

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE.....

PARTICIPATION RATE.....

| | Males | Females | Persons | Persons aged 15 to 19 years | Males | Females | Persons |
|-------|-------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|-------|---------|---------|
| Month | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |

TREND

1996

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|
| August | 9.6 | 9.3 | 9.5 | n.a. | 74.9 | 54.9 | 64.8 |
| September | 9.8 | 9.3 | 9.5 | n.a. | 74.8 | 54.9 | 64.8 |
| October | 9.8 | 9.3 | 9.6 | n.a. | 74.7 | 54.9 | 64.7 |
| November | 9.9 | 9.3 | 9.6 | n.a. | 74.6 | 54.8 | 64.6 |

ORIGINAL

1996

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|
| August | 9.6 | 8.8 | 9.3 | 21.6 | 74.2 | 54.3 | 64.1 |
| September | 9.1 | 8.9 | 9.0 | 20.5 | 75.0 | 55.7 | 65.3 |
| October | 9.4 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 22.6 | 74.5 | 54.5 | 64.4 |
| November | 8.5 | 8.7 | 8.6 | 21.6 | 74.1 | 54.6 | 64.2 |

EMPLOYED PERSONS.....

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS...

PERSONS IN
THE LABOUR
FORCE

FULL-TIME.....

PART-TIME.....

TOTAL

| Month | Males | Females | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |
|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|
|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|

TREND ('000)

1996

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------|------|-------|---------|
| August | 779.7 | 378.7 | 100.3 | 279.6 | 1 538.4 | 93.5 | 67.6 | 161.1 | 1 699.5 |
| September | 779.8 | 381.4 | 99.7 | 279.1 | 1 540.0 | 95.0 | 67.5 | 162.5 | 1 702.5 |
| October | 780.0 | 383.2 | 99.4 | 278.5 | 1 541.0 | 95.8 | 67.5 | 163.3 | 1 704.3 |
| November | 780.4 | 384.1 | 99.3 | 277.6 | 1 541.3 | 96.2 | 67.7 | 163.9 | 1 705.2 |

TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

1996

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| November | 2.0 | 1.9 | 3.5 | 0.7 | 1.8 | -2.5 | 9.4 | 2.1 | 1.9 |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|

ORIGINAL ('000)

1996

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------|------|-------|---------|
| August | 775.7 | 375.5 | 95.8 | 279.6 | 1 526.6 | 92.8 | 63.6 | 156.4 | 1 683.1 |
| September | 786.3 | 385.0 | 102.4 | 287.9 | 1 561.5 | 88.9 | 65.8 | 154.7 | 1 716.3 |
| October | 784.0 | 382.9 | 96.9 | 278.8 | 1 542.5 | 91.4 | 62.8 | 154.2 | 1 696.7 |
| November | 784.1 | 376.3 | 103.1 | 286.8 | 1 550.2 | 82.1 | 63.3 | 145.4 | 1 695.6 |

ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

1996

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|------|-----|
| November | 2.4 | — | 6.8 | 1.1 | 1.8 | -10.5 | 6.4 | -3.9 | 1.3 |
|----------|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|------|-----|

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYED PERSONS.....

| | Mining | Manufacturing | Construction | Wholesale and retail trade | Accommodation, cafes and restaurants | Transport and storage | Finance and insurance | Property and business services | Government administration and defence | Education | Health and community services | Other | Total |
|-------------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Quarter | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 |
| 1995 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| November | 16.4 | 184.7 | 131.9 | 315.3 | 81.1 | 76.2 | 43.5 | 147.4 | 69.0 | 107.5 | 131.6 | 217.5 | 1 522.1 |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February | 16.9 | 183.6 | 128.0 | 323.0 | 73.3 | 81.4 | 45.0 | 147.9 | 68.1 | 100.9 | 136.6 | 209.4 | 1 514.1 |
| May | 21.9 | 173.8 | 123.0 | 323.3 | 76.0 | 86.7 | 48.1 | 137.0 | 66.7 | 112.5 | 137.5 | 217.5 | 1 524.0 |
| August | 19.7 | 165.4 | 128.8 | 326.1 | 81.8 | 87.3 | 46.9 | 138.2 | 62.1 | 107.8 | 139.6 | 222.9 | 1 526.6 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| August | 3.7 | -10.4 | 2.5 | 5.2 | 9.4 | -0.1 | 17.8 | -4.1 | -8.8 | -3.9 | 9.1 | 7.9 | 1.8 |

EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS.....

PRIVATE

GOVERNMENT.....

| | Total | Commonwealth | State | Local | Total |
|-------------|-------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Month | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 |
| 1994 | | | | | |
| December | 719.1 | 47.5 | 193.4 | 32.7 | 273.6 |
| 1995 | | | | | |
| January | 726.6 | 45.7 | 186.1 | 32.7 | 264.6 |
| February | 740.1 | 45.4 | 191.7 | 33.4 | 270.4 |
| March | 741.6 | 45.5 | 193.1 | 33.8 | 272.4 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| 1995 | | | | | |
| March | 6.8 | 1.3 | -1.1 | 0.3 | -0.6 |

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS
(full-time adult)

JOB VACANCIES

OVERTIME.....

| | Males | Females | | Average weekly hours per employee |
|-------------|--------|---------|------|-----------------------------------|
| Quarter | \$ | \$ | '000 | Hours |
| 1995 | | | | |
| November | 653.40 | 551.50 | 6.8 | 1.05 |
| 1996 | | | | |
| February | 650.30 | 554.30 | 7.2 | 1.06 |
| May | 662.00 | 553.70 | 7.3 | 1.20 |
| August | 663.70 | 569.70 | 9.0 | 0.97 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|-------|
| 1996 | | | | |
| May | 2.9 | 1.5 | 19.7 | 3.4 |
| August | 3.5 | 4.3 | -3.2 | -10.2 |

ESTIMATED RESIDENT
POPULATION

POPULATION GROWTH DURING PERIOD.....

| Quarter | '000 | POPULATION GROWTH DURING PERIOD..... | | | |
|--|---------|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------|
| | | <i>Natural increase</i> | <i>Net estimated interstate migration</i> | <i>Net estimated overseas migration</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| | | No. | No. | No. | No. |
| 1995 | | | | | |
| September | 3 297.6 | 6 317 | 9 800 | 4 433 | 20 550 |
| December | 3 316.1 | 5 603 | 10 079 | 2 854 | 18 536 |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| March | 3 339.0 | 7 512 | 10 975 | 4 393 | 22 880 |
| June | 3 354.7 | 6 151 | 6 662 | 2 843 | 15 656 |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| June | 2.4 | -6.8 | -42.0 | -20.1 | -27.7 |

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION AT 30 JUNE.....

| | <i>Brisbane</i> ¹ | <i>Moreton</i> ¹ | <i>Wide Bay-Burnett</i> ² | <i>Far North</i> ² | <i>Queensland</i> |
|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Year | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 |
| 1991-92 | 1 387.3 | 510.3 | 201.5 | 185.5 | 3 032.8 |
| 1992-93 | 1 421.6 | 533.7 | 209.3 | 190.4 | 3 116.0 |
| 1993-94 | 1 454.4 | 558.7 | 216.1 | 195.7 | 3 196.1 |
| 1994-95 | 1 489.1 | 584.2 | 222.5 | 200.9 | 3 277.4 |

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

AWARD RATES OF PAY INDEXES²

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS MOVEMENT

FULL-TIME ADULT EMPLOYEES

ARRIVALS

DEPARTURES

| Month | <i>Working days lost</i> | <i>Males</i> | | <i>Females</i> | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|--------|
| | '000 | Index No. | Index No. | '000 | '000 |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| July | 28.1 | 145.6 | 149.6 | 162.4 | 140.7 |
| August | 32.8 | 145.6 | 149.7 | 148.1 | 161.0 |
| September | n.y.a. | 145.7 | 149.7 | 140.4 | 140.7 |
| October | n.y.a. | 145.8 | 149.8 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| September | .. | 1.0 | 1.4 | 21.6 | 10.7 |
| October | .. | 1.1 | 1.4 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. |

¹ Statistical Division.² Base: June 1985 = 100.0.



BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION—Queensland

BUILDING APPROVALS.....

TREND.....

ORIGINAL.....

| | <i>New houses</i> | <i>Total dwelling units</i> | <i>New houses</i> | <i>New other residential buildings</i> | <i>Total dwelling units</i> | <i>Value of dwelling units approved</i> | <i>Value of non-residential buildings approved</i> | <i>Total value of all building approved</i> |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| <i>Month</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| July | 1 962 | 2 710 | 2 205 | 776 | 3 011 | 305.8 | 224.6 | 558.3 |
| August | 1 937 | 2 741 | 2 046 | 872 | 2 925 | 274.3 | 197.9 | 497.4 |
| September | 1 921 | 2 779 | 1 963 | 618 | 2 590 | 248.2 | 263.1 | 536.2 |
| October | 1 897 | 2 808 | 2 312 | 983 | 3 300 | 323.1 | 194.3 | 542.8 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|------|-------|------|------|-----|------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| October | 4.3 | 13.5 | 13.9 | 111.9 | 32.1 | 41.2 | 3.2 | 23.1 |

DWELLING UNIT COMMENCEMENTS.....

ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

| | <i>New houses</i> | <i>New other residential buildings</i> | <i>Value of new residential building</i> | <i>Value of non-residential building</i> | <i>Value of work commenced</i> | <i>Value of work done</i> |
|----------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Quarter</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> |
| 1995 | | | | | | |
| September | 6 122 | 2 297 | 777.5 | 590.2 | 950.7 | 723.7 |
| December | 6 039 | 1 557 | 711.7 | 539.8 | 950.4 | 839.9 |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| March | 4 835 | 2 042 | 666.0 | 591.3 | 616.0 | 674.6 |
| June | 6 128 | 2 040 | 857.4 | 642.2 | 647.3 | 792.3 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|-------|------|----|-------|-----|
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| June | -2.4 | -30.8 | -1.4 | -- | -10.2 | 2.3 |

PRICE INDEXES

AUSTRALIA

Articles produced by manufacturing industry¹..... Materials used in manufacturing industry: Export¹ Import¹

| Month | Food, beverages and tobacco | Basic metal products | Petroleum and coal products | Transport equipment | Fabricated metal products | All groups | Imported materials | Domestic materials | All materials | All groups | All groups |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| June | 125.2 | 105.7 | 122.8 | 122.6 | 119.8 | 120.7 | 112.0 | 105.5 | 107.7 | 93.1 | 109.6 |
| July | 125.8 | 103.8 | 121.5 | 122.8 | 119.6 | 120.8 | 110.9 | 103.7 | 106.3 | 93.0 | 109.3 |
| August | 126.4 | 104.2 | 120.4 | 122.1 | 119.7 | 121.0 | 111.1 | 103.5 | 106.2 | 93.7 | 109.8 |
| September | 126.7 | 103.3 | 123.1 | 122.0 | 120.3 | 121.1 | 110.3 | 103.2 | 105.7 | 92.2 | 109.0 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| September | 1.0 | -7.2 | 3.5 | -0.2 | 1.3 | 0.5 | -7.2 | -2.1 | -4.1 | -4.4 | -6.4 |

BRISBANE

QUEENSLAND¹

Consumer price index².....

Established house²

Prices received by farmers²

Prices paid by farmers²

Farmers' terms of trade²

| Quarter | Food | Housing | Transportation | All groups | Established house ² | Prices received by farmers ² | Prices paid by farmers ² | Farmers' terms of trade ² |
|-------------|-------|---------|----------------|------------|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1995 | | | | | | | | |
| December | 115.8 | 112.1 | 120.1 | 118.6 | 137.0 | 114.4 | 127.8 | 89.5 |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 117.0 | 112.1 | 120.5 | 119.6 | 136.2 | 110.2 | 128.3 | 85.9 |
| June | 117.8 | 112.5 | 122.1 | 120.4 | 137.1 | 106.8 | 127.3 | 85.6 |
| September | 117.7 | 112.4 | 122.2 | 120.6 | 137.5 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a. |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| September | 2.0 | 0.9 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 0.4 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a. |

BRISBANE

Materials used in house building²

Materials used in building other than house².....

| Month | All groups | Structural steel | Ready-mixed concrete | All groups |
|-------------|------------|------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 1996 | | | | |
| July | 114.1 | 138.0 | 102.2 | 115.0 |
| August | 114.5 | 136.8 | 102.4 | 115.2 |
| September | 114.5 | 136.8 | 102.3 | 115.4 |
| October | 114.7 | 137.2 | 102.7 | 115.5 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| 1996 | | | | |
| October | -1.1 | 2.4 | -3.6 | 0.2 |

¹ Base: 1988-89=100.0.

² Base: 1989-90=100.0.

³ Source: Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics

⁴ Base: 1987-88=100.0.

BANKING AND FINANCE

QUEENSLAND—ALL BANKS¹

QUEENSLAND—BUILDING SOCIETIES

DEPOSITS

LOANS

LENDING OPERATIONS

| | Term | Other ² | Total | Other lending ² | Loans advanced | Lending commitments unused | Receipts | Withdrawals |
|-------------|--------|--------------------|--------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Month | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| June | 21 171 | 17 016 | 38 187 | 51 206 | 139.9 | 183.4 | 2 808.9 | 2 771.0 |
| July | 21 207 | 17 254 | 38 461 | 51 826 | 147.5 | 169.9 | 3 201.7 | 3 215.3 |
| August | 21 198 | 17 485 | 38 683 | 52 155 | 135.6 | 155.5 | 2 885.8 | 2 819.0 |
| September | 21 353 | 17 619 | 38 972 | 52 202 | 118.2 | 160.9 | 2 660.2 | 2 626.0 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| September | 12.4 | 5.2 | 9.0 | 11.3 | -5.6 | 3.1 | 40.8 | 43.4 |

QUEENSLAND—FINANCE COMMITMENTS

PERSONAL

COMMERCIAL

LEASE

| | All banks | Credit cooperatives | Finance companies | Other | Total | All banks | Finance companies | Other | Total | Total |
|-------------|-----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Month | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | |
| June | 362.1 | 37.1 | 86.7 | 26.6 | 512.6 | 1 517.2 | 129.9 | 283.2 | 1 930.3 | 200.7 |
| July | 401.1 | 39.1 | 102.0 | 17.0 | 559.1 | 1 481.5 | 175.1 | 203.2 | 1 859.8 | 158.1 |
| August | 354.0 | 35.6 | 89.9 | 19.6 | 499.0 | 1 110.8 | 142.6 | 217.1 | 1 470.6 | 130.3 |
| September | 364.9 | 37.8 | 89.4 | 30.7 | 522.7 | 959.5 | 160.5 | 187.4 | 1 307.4 | 124.1 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | |
| September | 10.7 | 8.9 | -2.4 | 198.3 | 12.1 | -4.7 | 41.2 | -2.6 | -0.4 | 10.7 |

QUEENSLAND—HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

AUSTRALIA—INTEREST RATES

| | All banks | Permanent building societies | Other lenders | Total | Housing loans for owner occupation |
|-------------|-----------|------------------------------|---------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| Month | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | % |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| June | 454.1 | 75.3 | 53.5 | 582.9 | 9.8 |
| July | 581.4 | 75.7 | 69.6 | 726.7 | 9.8 |
| August | 602.6 | 69.6 | 55.9 | 728.2 | 9.3 |
| September | 599.3 | 72.2 | 55.4 | 726.9 | 9.3 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | |
|-------------|------|-------|------|------|----|
| 1996 | | | | | |
| September | -0.6 | -23.1 | 13.0 | -2.6 | .. |

¹ Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. ² Including certificates of deposit. ³ Excluding non-resident lending.



BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS

AUSTRALIA..... QUEENSLAND

TRADING PERFORMANCE..... INVESTMENT... EMPLOY- MENT OPERATING EXPENSES INTERNATIONAL TRADE SALES

| Quarter | Sales | Selling prices | Profit | Capital | Stocks | | | Imports | Exports |
|---------|-------|----------------|--------|---------|--------|--|--|---------|---------|
|---------|-------|----------------|--------|---------|--------|--|--|---------|---------|

SHORT-TERM OUTLOOK—Expected aggregate change from the previous quarter (%)

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | -0.2 | 0.2 | -9.6 | 4.9 | -0.7 | — | 0.9 | — | 1.7 | -0.4 |
| June | 2.3 | 0.7 | 9.6 | 1.8 | -0.6 | -0.2 | 1.2 | 5.7 | 2.6 | 2.6 |
| September | 1.6 | 0.2 | 4.2 | 2.0 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 1.3 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 1.4 |
| December | 1.6 | 0.2 | 3.7 | 2.6 | -0.6 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 2.6 | 1.2 |

MEDIUM-TERM OUTLOOK—Expected aggregate change from the corresponding quarter of the previous year (%)

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 4.4 | 1.3 | 20.0 | 6.1 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 2.5 | 4.3 | 5.0 | 4.5 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 4.1 | 2.0 | 13.1 | 3.5 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 2.8 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 3.7 |
| June | 3.6 | 1.5 | 13.5 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 2.2 | 2.8 | 5.2 | 3.6 |
| September | 3.1 | 1.2 | 10.1 | 6.6 | — | 0.6 | 2.4 | 3.6 | 4.7 | 2.5 |

AUSTRALIA.....

ACTUAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.....

| | New buildings and structures | Equipment, plant and machinery | Total |
|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|
| Period | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| 1994-95 | 8 630 | 25 692 | 34 336 |
| 1995-96 | 11 849 | 26 486 | 37 828 |

AUSTRALIA.....

EXPECTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.....

| | New buildings and structures | Equipment, plant and machinery | Total |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|
| Period | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| 3 months to Dec. 1996 | 3 996 | 8 129 | 12 125 |
| 6 months to June 1997 | 8 292 | 12 333 | 20 625 |
| 1996-97 | 15 638 | 27 272 | 42 910 |

¹ This data item has a high standard error.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains latest estimates for a comprehensive range of economic indicators. Statistics shown in this publication are the latest available at the date of preparation. In a number of cases figures appearing in this publication are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues. Reference should therefore always be made to the latest issue or to the statistical publication on the specific subject.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION

2 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. This means that month-to-month movements of the seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

3 The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series reduces the impact of the irregular components of the seasonally adjusted series and creates trend estimates. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months except the last six. The last six monthly trend estimates are obtained by applying surrogates of the Henderson average to the seasonally adjusted series. Trend series are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of the series over time.

4 While this smoothing technique enables estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions to the most recent months as additional observations become available. Generally, subsequent revisions become smaller and after 3 months have a negligible impact on the series. Revisions also occur as a result of the annual review of seasonal factors.

5 Users may wish to refer to the ABS Publication: *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring 'Trends', An Overview* (1348.0) for more detailed information on smoothing seasonally adjusted time series data.

COMPOSITE LEADING INDICATOR

6 The ABS has developed an experimental Composite Leading Indicator (CLI) which summarises the early signals contained in a selection of economic indicators. The CLI is calculated as a simple average of the short-medium term movements in eight indicators. On average during the 1970s and 1980s, the CLI led turning points in the GDP(A) growth cycle by around two quarters, but the lead time for individual peaks and troughs varied considerably.

7 Expansions and slow downs in activity are measured relative to the historical long-term trend; thus *peaks and troughs in the CLI provide early signals of turning points in the growth cycle*, not signals of recessions and recoveries.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

8 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, the *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and *Release Advice* are available from any ABS office.

UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS

9 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Information Inquiries on (07) 3222 6351 or to any ABS office.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

10 Estimates have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between totals and sums of the component items.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

n.a. not available
n.y.a. not yet available
.. not applicable
— nil or rounded to zero



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